

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 PM-09 INR-10 INRE-00 RSC-01 SSO-00

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DRAFTED BY NEA/ ARP: BWRAMPELMEIER: RJW

4/20/73: EXTENSION 20920

APPROVED BY NEA: MR. ATHERTON

NEA/ ARP: FMDICKMAN

NEA/ IRN: MR. MICHAUD

PM: MR. CHAPMAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 075566

STADIS//////////

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, SA

SUBJ: CINCEUR VISIT TO MIDDLE EAST

REF: JIDDA 1617

1. AGREE THAT FORTHCOMING CINCEUR VISIT PREVENTS EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO UNDERScore TO SAUDIS OUR CONTINUING INTEREST IN THEIR OWN AND IN REGIONAL SECURITY MATTERS. WE SHARE YOUR HOPE THAT IN HIS MEETINGS WITH KING AND OTHER SAUDI LEADERS GENERAL GOODPASTER WILL HAVE OPPORTUNITY STRESS POSITIVE ASPECTS OF US- SAUDI RELATIONSHIP AND CAN AVOID BEING BOGGED DOWN IN UNREWARDING REHASHING BY SAUDIS OF WHAT THEY SEE AS CURRENT SHORTCOMINGS OF US MIDDLE EAST POLICY.

2. WE CONCUR GENERALLY IN LINE OF APPROACH YOU WOULD RECOMMEND GENERAL GOODPASTER FOLLOW (PARA 2 REFTEL). WITH RESPECT TO ITEM 2. B, GENERAL SHOULD BE CAUTIONED THAT CURRENT TREND IN WASHINGTON (AS HE MAY BE AWARE
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THROUGH DOD CHANNELS) IS TOWARD FURTHER CUTS IN MAP AND IN U HER MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS OVERSEAS. THUS, WHEN DISCUSSING WHAT USG MIGHT CONTRIBUTE AS ITS SHARE TO REGIONAL STABILITY, HE SHOULD BE CAREFUL NOT TO IMPLY THAT ANY GRANT MILITARY AID, EITHER TO SAUDI ARABIA OR TO LESS- WELL-OFF NEIGHBORS LIKE YEMEN AND OMAN, CAN BE ANTICIPATED. USG WILL EXPECT THAT PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR ASSISTING

ARABIAN STATES THREATENED BY AGGRESSION FROM HOSTILE NEIGHBORS WILL COME FROM SAUDI ARABIA AND POSSIBLY IRAN WHICH MUST ITSELF ASSUME FINANCIAL BURDENS OF THIS AID. US CAN AND WILL DO WHAT IT CAN TO MEET, ON REIMBURSABLE BASIS, REQUESTS BY SAUDIS FOR REPLACEMENT OF MATERIAL TRANSFERRED TO YEMEN OR OMAN AND ALSO TO PROVIDE TRAINING/ ADVISORY ASSISTANCE TO SAUDIS WHO WILL IN TURN TRAIN RECIPIENT PERSONNEL IN ITS USE AND MAINTENANCE.

3. IN VIEW OTHER MESSAGES DISCUSSING POSSIBLE APPROACHES TO ENCOURAGE INITIATION OF SAUDI DIALOGUE WITH IRAN ON REGIONAL COLLECTIVE SECURITY QUESTIONS, LEAVE IT TO YOUR DISCRETION WHETHER GENERAL GOODPASTER MIGHT TRY FIND OPPORTUNITY INJECT THIS POINT INTO HIS CONVERSATION WITH KING OR PRINCE SULTAN. PERHAPS GENERAL MIGHT NOTE IN PASSING THAT HE INTENDS VISIT TEHRAN FOLLOWING HIS VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA AND THAT QUESTION OF REGIONAL COLLECTIVE SECURITY COULD WELL ARISE DURING HIS TALKS THERE. IN EVENT IT DOES, DO SAUDIS HAVE ANY COMMENTS OR OBSERVATIONS TO MAKE THAT HE COULD USEFULLY CONVEY TO IRANISANS OR WHICH MIGHT ASSIST HIM IN PUTTING THIS ISSUE IN PERSPECTIVE.

4. AGREE GOODPASTER VISIT WOULD BE USEFUL TO PROD SAG ON NEED PROVIDE IMMEDIATE TOKEN MILITARY AID TO YAR. SEPTTEL FOLLOWS.

5. ASSUME ALSO THAT YOU WILL REVIEW WITH GENERAL GOODPASTER OUR GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF THREAT TO SAUDI ARABIA FROM IRAQ AND PDRY AND PROBABLE SOVIET INTENTIONS CONTAINED IN STATE 66350. PORTER

SECRET

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** STADIS

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE075566
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: BWRAMPPELMEIER: RJW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730449/aaaaiuzh.tel
Line Count: 107
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: 73 JIDDA 1617
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <22 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980128
Subject: CINCEUR VISIT TO MIDDLE EAST
TAGS: MARR, SA
To: JIDDA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005